

REMARKS

I. Amendments to the Claims

Applicants submit this supplemental amendment in view of the Office Action mailed January 24, 2005, in which the Examiner stated that the submission filed on December 1, 2004, with a Request for Continued Examination was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because the claims, as amended, appeared to encompass a patentably distinct invention.

In a telephone call to Examiner Venci on January 17, 2005, Applicants made an inquiry regarding the basis of the Examiner's objection that the claims, as amended, are to an independent and distinct invention. The Examiner suggested that Applicants amend the claims to more clearly recite that the recombinant proteins are not expressed by living human ovarian cells *in situ*.

Accordingly, the claims have been amended to recite that the proteins are expressed by a human ovarian cell line, obviating the Examiner's objection. Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments to supplement the previously-filed amendments dated December 1, 2004. The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) for a request for continued examination had previously been paid on December 1, 2004; therefore no fees are believed due for entry of this amendment.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and the amendments submitted on December 1, 2004 and herewith, Applicants believe that the application is in condition for immediate allowance. However, if the Examiner disagrees, he is encouraged to call the undersigned at the number listed below in order to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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